Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy

Department of Natural Resources
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Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy

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Labrador

Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

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- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs
- Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- National Research Council
- Lake Melville Agricultural Association
- Central Labrador Economic Development Board.

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The participants of the Public Consultation Sessions are to be commended for taking the time to attend and for providing comments and opinions. This contribution was valuable and sets the direction for Government to move forward with the development of the agrifoods industry in Labrador. Funding to develop this Strategy was provided by Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agri-Food Innovation Agreement and the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agricultural Policy Framework Agreement.

It is essential for all stakeholders to continue to work collectively to implement the Strategy and to ensure the agrifoods industry in Labrador reaches its maximum potential.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Labrador has a long agricultural history dating back to the 1700s. Since then, the agrifoods industry has grown to a value of $500,000 in total farm cash receipts in 2001. Agricultural commodities produced in the region consist of vegetables, forage, fruit, greenhouse, fur and a limited amount of livestock. During the past five years, various Governments and Agencies have invested over $600,000 in the agrifoods industry which indicates the commitment provided to strengthen agrifoods in Labrador.

The Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy has been formulated in response to the Provincial Government's further commitment to investigate the economic opportunities of the agrifoods industry in Labrador. The Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs in conjunction with other stakeholders formed a Steering Committee which has worked diligently towards investigating the issues facing the agrifoods industry in Labrador. Public Consultation Sessions were held across Labrador and the findings have been used as a basis to develop this Strategy.

Through this consultative process there were many issues identified needing to be addressed. The Strategy has formulated these issues as strategic actions which have been categorized under the following areas:

- Land Management
- Environmental Sustainability
- Infrastructure
- Production, Research and Development
- Economic/Market Development
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Circumpolar Agricultural Association

The implementation of the strategic actions outlined in this Strategy will be a long term integrated approach by all stakeholders involved. Collaboration and cooperation among the Federal and Provincial Governments, Agencies, producers, processors and others involved will be crucial in the Strategy's implementation.

The Department of Natural Resources will utilize all available resources to implement strategic actions identified. The Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) Implementation Agreement, will provide programming under five main elements - food safety and quality, renewal, environment, science and innovation and business risk management. In considering the unique needs of Labrador, the Department of Natural Resources has developed in its APF Program an initiative entitled the Northern Agrifoods Initiative. There is $1.5 million allocated in APF funding for this specific initiative to encourage the development, diversification and commercialization of a northern agrifoods industry.

In addition to programs available through the Department of Natural Resources, producers must work with other stakeholders such as federal government and development agencies to advance the industry. Partnerships among the various stakeholders will be key to achieving success. Efficient use of resources and collaboration will reap greater benefits for all involved. In turn, this will increase the economic agrifoods activity in Labrador and it will lead to the successful implementation of the Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy.

The success of the Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy will not be measured by what the Department of Natural Resources does alone. Success will be determined by how all stakeholders work together to meet the objectives of the Strategy.

1.0 STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

1.1 Background

In March 2001, the Provincial Government published "*Securing Our Future Together: The Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth.*" The document noted, "*the agrifoods industry is a major source of economic activity in many rural communities*" and "*the agrifoods industry offers significant opportunity to strengthen and diversify the rural economy.*" The document stated, "*Government would engage the appropriate stakeholders to address both the high cost of importing food products and the potential to create new jobs in Labrador.*"

In response to Government's commitment, the Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs undertook the development of the Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy with emphasis on viable economic potential for agrifoods development. To proceed with the development of the Strategy and gather relevant information from all stakeholders having an interest in the agrifoods industry the Steering Committee implemented a public consultation process.

1.2 Appointment of Facilitator

October 2002, a request for Facilitator Service for the Public Consultation Sessions was issued by the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs. A facilitator was appointed for the Labrador City and Happy Valley - Goose Bay sessions. The Department of Natural Resources facilitated the L'Anse au Clair session and findings were incorporated into the Public Consultation Report (Appendix B).

The Public Consultation Sessions were held as follows:

▸ October 16, 2002	Two Seasons Inn	Labrador City
▸ October 17, 2002	Labrador Inn	Happy Valley - Goose Bay
▸ October 28, 2002	Northern Lights Inn	L'Anse au Clair

1.3 Purpose

An extensive public consultation process was held throughout Labrador inviting participation from industry, organizations and interested members of the public. Using local media, the meetings were advertised encouraging the general public to attend. At each meeting the participants were asked to consider three main issues:

- opportunities for a viable agrifoods industry in Labrador;
- challenges/obstacles that will have to be faced to make the agrifoods industry viable; and
- solutions to these challenges/obstacles.

1.4 Public Consultation Sessions Highlights

An overwhelming response was received and support given to further develop the agrifoods industry in Labrador. Participants highlighted a wide range of opportunities to explore. With these opportunities came challenges and obstacles. The participants were very positive and provided direction and potential solutions for the challenges and obstacles to develop the agrifoods industry in Labrador. The following are commonalities from all three meetings respecting opportunities, obstacles and solutions.

- A specific focus on Labrador and the special circumstances that affect a viable agrifoods industry in the region.

- Labrador has the potential to produce far more agricultural products than is generally recognized.
- An effective, two-way flow of information between the Department of Natural Resources and the agrifoods industry in Labrador must be improved and maintained.
- Better access to agricultural expertise is essential for progress.
- There is a need for storage facilities in strategic locations for root crops and other purposes.
- A wide variety of wildberries grow well in Labrador and have much greater economic potential than is currently being realized. Research and development is needed.
- The availability of suitable land for cultivation is a serious limitation to progress.
- Best practices in other jurisdictions, with similarities to Labrador, should be studied with a view to technology transfer.
- Quotas for eggs, milk and broilers for Labrador are of particular concern.
- The expansion of the Labrador highway system will provide new and expanded opportunities.
- Consultation has taken place before. Hopefully Government is really listening this time!

2.0 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Labrador has a very rich and prosperous agriculture/horticulture history dating back to the 1700s. This is difficult to conceive given Labrador's harsh and rugged environment. Research indicates that agricultural activities in Labrador have been prevalent for centuries. Once primarily a basic need of personal sustenance, history tells us the agriculture industry in Labrador has potential to expand in the 21st Century.

John Christian Edheart and his Moravian Ministers came across the Atlantic Ocean in 1752 to a place called Nisbets Harbour (near the community of Makkovik) and dug several gardens and planted turnips, cabbage, peas, beans, and "winter corn." There are records of seed orders in the old Moravian Mission Documents dating back to the 1700s for the community of Hopedale, which is amazing due to the amount of rock in the community today.

They recognized the potential for gardening and once the community of Hopedale (Arvertok), was built in 1775, the missionaries had more than a decade of horticultural experience in Labrador. In 1782, they had marked off a piece of land 70 by 60 feet, filled in the craggy rocks, surrounded the plot with palisades, and supplied many wheelbarrows of earth, which was then mixed with seaweed to create a fertile mulch. In 1793 the garden was extended by 40 feet to allow for 12 more vegetable beds. The Hopedale Moravians eventually achieved considerable success in growing vegetables and flowers. Visitors to Hopedale, such as Bishop Reichel and Dr. Curwen, recorded their astonishment about these agricultural achievements. As an example of the diversity of crops, the first seed order of 1780 consisted of:

Early Yorkshire Cabbage two ounces, Red Yorkshire Cabbage two ounces,Royal Sugarloaf Cabbage one ounce,Royal Sugarloaf Lettuce two ounces, Brown Broccoli one ounce, Choux de Milan one ounce, Green Cabbage one ounce, Red Radishes half pint, White Radishes three ounces, Round Turnips two ounces, Black Radishes one ounce, Yellow Turnips one ounce, Early peas and beans circa 40 seeds, Parsley one ounce, Onions one ounce, Leek one ounce, Cress two pint, Mustard two pint, Corn-Salad or Rapunzel one

pint.

When Bishop Reichel came on his official visitation in 1861 to Hopedale, he observed: "*The ground, which has been cleared by the felling of trees suited for building, is cultivated as a garden, in which potatoes, cabbages, cauliflowers, lettuces, and radishes are grown, and succeed very well. In the few warm weeks of summer vegetation proceeds most rapidly.*" (Visitation Report, July 1861)

There had not been great expectations for the success of crops and when Bishop Reichel returned in 1876, he wrote: *"The gardens took us by surprise, as vegetation in them was more advanced than we had anticipated: during our stay they improved very perceptibly with the warm weather and occasional heavy rain. Salad and cucumbers in the forcing frames require great care and trouble, which are, however, well repaid."* (Visitation Report, July 1876)

The International Grenfell Foundation, also demonstrated the agricultural potential in Labrador. When the Grenfell physician Dr. Curwen visited Hopedale in 1893, he observed:

" After dinner I was shown the gardens and was as surprised as delighted with what I saw. Each missionary has his garden and grows vegetables chiefly but at one end has one or two beds of flowers in full bloom; the gardens so rich and in such order made me think I was in England again, for who expects to see Polemonium Richardsoni, poppy, nemophilia, iris, mignonette, stock, agrostemma and pansy flourish in north Labrador? The large vegetable gardens were full of rhubarb just passing off, celery, cucumber, cauliflower, beet and carrot coming on, and lettuce, kohlrabi, cabbage, curly cabbage, spinach and parsley in good condition. We had great presents of rhubarb and lettuce, there being far more than the families could consume; at one time the Newfoundland fishermen used to rob the gardens but of late years--since the Salvation Army men came down--the gardens have not been touched."

(Dr. Eliot Curwen about the Hopedale gardens, 24 August 1893; *Labrador Odyssey: The Journal and Photographs of Eliot Curwen on the Second Voyage of Wilfred Grenfell, 1893*, (1996), 100-101)

Grenfell's encouragement to residents spanned beyond the North Coast of Labrador. Central Labrador has a significant agricultural land mass suitable for a wide range of crops and other farming activities. Northwest River had substantial amounts of potatoes, carrots, turnips, and green peas which were primarily for domestic use. The community of Northwest River had a farmer by the name of Donald A. Smith who ran the Hudson's Bay Company. He was very prosperous at his farming endeavors with a variety of vegetables, fresh milk, cream and butter, and eggs. The Grenfell Hospital in Northwest River ran a large farm whose resources were used to feed patients. Local residents were employed by the hospital to maintain the farm. Mr. Ellis Michelin oversaw the agricultural operation for many years. At one time the hospital had 3,000 hens that were used for egg production and later meat. The agricultural skills of doctors were passed on to local residents of Northwest River and prevail today, as a personal past time in the community.

Between 1943 - 1945, the military base in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, had a large perfectly working hydroponic garden. Fresh flowers were raised and vegetables were fed to the troops. Colonel B.R.J. Hussell wondered why they couldn't have a pig farm, so he discussed it with his staff, and the only person who had experience with pigs was Sergeant Bill Bryan. The very next day, the Colonel and Sergeant Bryan, flew in a B-52 to Presque Isle to visit with farmers. By late afternoon that day they bought six sows and were left with $30 for the experiment. The last farmer that they had visited agreed to give them three dozen little shoats in addition to the mature sows. When they returned to Happy Valley-Goose Bay with a plane load of pigs they received many laughs from the troops, and were told that it would not work due to the cold temperature. Temporary storage was set up at the search and rescue division until a hog building was erected a few weeks later. Having these pigs, it was realized that they needed a boar, so they bought the best one suited for cold climates, a Berkshire boar, which was dubbed the Count of Labrador. It wasn't long before the base had 66 good size porkers to look after; which also wasn't a problem due to the homesick farm boys from the US who used to come into the pens and look after the animals. (*Resource: Them Days)*

In 1953, the Provincial Department of Agriculture assigned an agricultural field man to Labrador to travel by coastal boat from L'Anse au Clair to Postville to encourage

supplementary farming. The Department also distributed complimentary seed, fertilizer and livestock to those interested in agriculture, along coastal Labrador. The program only lasted four years; residents lacked knowledge of proper agricultural techniques. At this time, 10 agricultural societies were developed to encourage interest in agricultural activities; only one society, that at Capstan Island, survived into the 1970s.

As well, in the Straits of Labrador residents have produced vegetables and raised livestock for personal use. In 1973, there was one full time egg producer based out of the Straits area, along with some commercial activity in the harvesting of wildberries, particularly the bakeapple (cloudberry) and redberry (partridgeberry). The berries were purchased by local agents who then shipped them throughout Canada, the United States and Europe.

In 1976, the provincial government conducted a reconnaissance survey to obtain an indication of bog acreage and crop potential. Trial plots were established and in subsequent years fruit was collected to give an indication of yield. Roads were constructed providing better access to bakeapple bogs. Picker and buyer questionnaires were mailed out to get an indication of markets, obtain ideas for production and market development. In 1983, work was done under the Coastal Labrador Agreement, basic to this study was the use of all-terrain vehicles in practical harvest situations and bog productivity studies.

In 1986, bakeapple research plots were established at L'Anse au Clair and English Point. Trial plots were established to research cultivation practices that might increase yields. These trials included burning, herbicide application, fertilizer application, roto tilling, snow fences and floating row covers.

The community of Nain in 1979 recorded large gardens in which turnip and cabbage were grown with great success; the vegetables were turned into the Moravian Store for sale. Black Island, which is outside of Nain, also had gardens in which turnip greens were salted and kept for the winter. The settlement of Okak, north of Nain, also had gardens that were very successful; the Inuit would place caplin in barrels with water and use it as fertilizer.

The Report on the Royal Commission for Labrador (February, 1974) identified the Lake Melville region as a suitable growing area comparable to St. John's and the Codroy Valley, with acceptable growing degree days and soil structure. At this time, the

Commission recommended that:

"...the Province, through its Department of Forestry and Agriculture, conduct detailed soil surveys in areas showing commercial agricultural potential and that suitable areas of crown land be legally reserved for agricultural production, thus enabling private operators to obtain title. First priority should be given to the Northwest River , Happy Valley-Goose Bay/Mud Lake area, which appears to offer the best potential for commercial and domestic agricultural development in Labrador.

The Commission further recommends, because good agricultural land is at such a premium in Labrador, and is so potentially important as a local source of produce, poultry and livestock, that identified agricultural crown land have priority use over all other uses."

Part-time commercial operators started to emerge in the Upper Lake Melville area throughout the 1970s and into the 1980s, by the Felsbergs, Coffeys, Snelgroves, Culls, and Burtons. The first egg production facility in Upper Lake Melville was operated by Michael Joseph in the early 1980s thru to 1990. The 90s brought two full time operators to the area and one of these operators, to this day, continues to run a fox farm. The other operator, established a layer operation in 1997, which continued operating until recently. In 2000, the Lake Melville Agriculture Association (LMAA) was incorporated, representing operators of existing farm efforts and individuals who are seeking to enter agricultural operations. The LMAA has become a strong lobbying voice for stakeholders in the area.

It should be noted in recent years the communities of Labrador West and Churchill Falls have experimented with agriculture on a local level with *Community Gardens*. There are over one hundred lots in Labrador West with volunteers running the gardens. It is interesting to note in the mid 1980s a feasibility study was conducted in Labrador West on the development of an egg farm. At that time the study identified the venture would not be viable due to the inadequate transportation system within Labrador. Since then, the Trans Labrador Highway system has greatly improved and expanded.

The 2001 Canadian Census indicates the population of Labrador is approximately 27,865 and within this population Zone Three and Zone Five have a total of 13 farms operating, of which eight operate at a commercial level. Today many Labrador residents

have gardens for personal consumption, recreational and health purposes (organic products). Agricultural activities, once a basic need for Labradorians, have changed. Since meat, dairy, and produce may be more readily available via retail providers, there are less aggressive personal agricultural activities.

3.0 INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

3.1 Introduction

During the past several years residents of Labrador have indicated interest in agricultural development. The 2001 Canadian Census indicated total gross farm cash receipts on an annual basis are approximately $500,000. Total farm acreage is 662 acres including leased, granted and rented land. Agriculture commodities consist of vegetable, forage, fruit, greenhouse, fur and a limited amount of livestock for personal consumption.

There has been more than $600,000 invested in the agrifoods industry in Labrador during the past five years. The Canada/Newfoundland Labrador Agri-Food Innovation Agreement, Provincial Farm Business Management Program and other Departmental Programs contributed more than $400,000 for human resource development, market development, electrical services and access roads, medicinal crops, eg. cranberry plots, limestone program, on-farm development, forage projects and soil surveys. The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency has contributed $182,000 for peatland development in Forteau. Agri-Adapt Council Inc., administered by the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture, has contributed over $40,000 towards the Meri Crusher Project and the National Research Council has contributed funding towards travel and exchange opportunities.

3.2 Labrador West

Labrador West includes two municipalities, Labrador City and Wabush, with a combined population of approximately 9,638. The two towns are approximately 500 kilometres from Happy Valley - Goose Bay to the East and approximately 600 kilometres from Baie - Comeau Quebec to the South. Most of the land in this area is controlled by the Iron Ore Company of Canada. The Department of Natural Resources completed field work during the summer of 2003 to determine suitable agricultural land for this area and a final report will be released in the spring of 2004.

The residents of Labrador West are currently operating more than 100 community

garden lots on a volunteer basis. The lots vary in size from 20 X 20 to 20 X 40 feet with an annual fee of $15 payable to the Town of Labrador City.

3.3 Happy Valley - Goose Bay

This region is located in Central Labrador and is approximately 500 kilometres East of Labrador City, and has a population of approximately 9,600. A large portion of the land has been surveyed for agricultural potential and found to be suitable. Most soils have a high concentration of sand and increasing the organic matter levels is one of the area's primary agricultural challenges. The topography of the soil and the lack of stone, creates an opportunity for agricultural development. There are seven farm units producing a variety of products including vegetables, nursery crops, pork and fur.

3.4 Southern Labrador

Southern Labrador is bordered by Quebec to the south and runs north to Cartwright. The population is estimated at 6,000. The Trans Labrador Highway runs North from L'Anse au Clair to Cartwright. This region is connected to the island portion of the province via the Blanc Sablon/St. Barbe marine ferry crossing in one hour and 45 minutes and operating approximately eight months of the year. During the winter months travel between the island and this portion of Labrador is limited to air transportation.

The region of Labrador between St. Paul's River, Quebec to Cartwright, Labrador has a combined population of 9,000 people, marginally smaller than Happy Valley - Goose Bay. This area can be characterized as barren and rocky with small areas of arable land suitable for agriculture. Presently, there are horticultural producers, greenhouse operators and buyers of wildberries.

This area is recognized for its bakeapples and partridgeberries with a focus on secondary processing using these small fruits.

4.0 TRANSPORTATION/DISTRIBUTION

Labrador has faced many challenges and obstacles with respect to distribution of goods to and within the region. With a significant land mass and small population, Labrador has and continues to struggle with transportation infrastructure issues. During the Public Consultation Session in Labrador West the participants did mention they do experience difficulty with transporting products to market. Despite this, time has provided great progression in this regard; particularly with improved road service.

Prior to the 1990s, most goods were either shipped via marine from the island portion of the province between June and November or transported via air during the winter months. This service was undependable at times and goods were of poor quality and costly to the consumer. With the development of the Trans Labrador Highway (Route 500) there has been a significant positive impact in selection, quality and price of products for many residents of Labrador. Although the Trans Labrador Highway provides road connections from Labrador West to Happy Valley - Goose Bay and from L'Anse au Clair to Cartwright, North Coast communities still rely on traditional transportation modes for the distribution of goods. The North Coast bears the cost of shipments to Central Labrador plus the additional cost of shipping to their area. It should be noted, the Province has subsidized freight costs for food to the Coast through the Air Foodlift Subsidy. The federal government also provides additional subsidies through its Food by Mail Program. Agrifood products produced and supplied locally will cost all Labrador residents significantly less and the quality of fresh products will be much greater.

5.0 LAND MANAGEMENT

5.1 Introduction

During the past several years extensive soil work has been completed in Labrador, particularly in the Mud Lake Road area. A Soils Survey Report was published by the Soil and Land Management Division, Department of Natural Resources in February 2002. It was initiated for the purpose of establishing mineral soil suitability for cole crops, potatoes, and forage crops. The study area is located at the western end of Lake Melville in Happy Valley - Goose Bay which covers an area of 3,955 acres. The physical characteristics considered in the report were climatology, geology and geomorphology, surface drainage, soil drainage and vegetation. There were 2,390 acres identified as suitable.

5.2 Labrador West

Participants at the Public Consultation Sessions identified land availability as a challenge since most of the land is controlled by the mining companies. If agriculture is to develop, land availability needs to be determined and a soil survey is required to determine suitable areas for production.

5.3 Happy Valley - Goose Bay

February 2004, the Town of Happy Valley - Goose Bay forwarded a letter to the Department of Natural Resources advising an area of the Mud Lake Road has been approved for agricultural development. The Town's wellhead protection program on existing agricultural land use is currently being reviewed for potential impact. Consideration has been taken to review all existing agricultural land use in the area to obtain an accurate and up-to-date inventory of activity and lease compliance.

Public Consultation participants identified concerns with Crown land policy and suggested the policy be reviewed and changes made. Producers felt chartered banks are reluctant to use leased land for collateral. Participants also felt the land base available for

farming is far from adequate.

5.4 Southern Labrador

Participants in this area did not identify any land management issues or concerns during their Public Consultation Sessions.

5.5 Soils and Physiography

Soil development is dependant on geology, climate and biological processes. Geologically, Labrador occupies the most easterly section of pre-cambrian rocks in the Canadian shield. During the last glaciation, Labrador was covered by a massive ice cap which left marked erosional and depositional features on the geological face of the region. Soil development in Labrador has taken place since the melting of these glaciers approximately 8,000 years ago. In Northern Labrador this glaciation along with current cold climate and mountainous conditions had resulted in limited soil development, extensive permafrost and significant areas of coastal barrens.

Around the Lake Melville lowland area of south-central Labrador better soil development occurs on flat to gently sloping sandy outwash and raised marine deposits. Most commercial agricultural development in Labrador to date has taken place on the sandy soils in and around the Town of Happy Valley - Goose Bay. Soil surveys indicate there are significant areas of soils suitable for farmland expansion on this area.

Southern Labrador has a thriving summer harvest of wild bakeapples (Rubus chamaemorus L.) on extensive areas of organic soils. Home gardening or hobby farming is popular in many areas of Labrador, particularly in the Labrador City - Wabush area.

Various soil amendments and weather controls can be implemented to extend the growing season to ensure crop success and to broaden the range of crop production: eg., greenhouses, cold frames, soil drainage, addition of organic matter, limestone and fertilizers, row covers, raised beds, shelter belts and fences, mulches, irrigation and new crop varieties.

5.6 Climate

The climate of Labrador is mainly under a cool northern latitude continental influence except for the coastal region which is influenced by maritime conditions, particularly the cold Labrador current. Normal winters are long and harsh with snow prevalent from November to early June. In the Torngat Mountains, snow may persist from late September to early July. The coastline is generally ice-covered for five months. Summers tend to be short and temperatures are low along the coast as a result of proximity to the cold Labrador current. Coastal fog is common. Rainfall is usually adequate for agriculture throughout the growing season in all areas of Labrador.

Altitude is also a significant factor particularly for mountainous areas such as the Torngats in the north and the Mealy Mountains in the south. The continental climate of the interior and the cool maritime climate of the coast is somewhat modified in the lowland area surrounding Lake Melville where summers are longer and thus warmer. The average frost free period is 104 days for the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area. In fact, many aspects of the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area climate during the growing season compare quite favorably to more southern portions of the province. In Happy Valley - Goose Bay the mean date of the last spring frost is June 5 while the first fall frost is September 18. Risk of frost may be reduced and/or growing season extended by starting plants in cold frames or greenhouses, and using row covers in the field. The average degree days above 5°C is 991.7. This is near the level for some agricultural areas on the island portion of the province and significantly higher than for many other areas of Labrador. Growing degree-days are important to many aspects of agriculture, e.g., limiting the number of plant species and crops climatically adapted to the particular area and influence planting schedules and harvest dates. Table 1 is a meteorological summary depicting climatic variable for a number of selected stations in Newfoundland and Labrador.

There is a growing consensus that global climate warming is inevitable. There is speculation that the northern limits for growth of a broad range of crops may be significantly extended in the course of this century. Of more significance in the near term is the possibility of extreme weather events affecting farming activities.

Although there are challenges involved in northern agriculture, the 100-day growing season in the Happy Valley - Goose Bay area combined with long day length could allow producers to achieve significant crop yields. This appears to be borne out by commercial farming successes in the area in recent years. A shorter growing period combined with average cooler temperatures in coastal and plateau areas pose significant challenges. Careful attention must be paid to varieties of crops selected, cropping practices and soil management in order to obtain consistent successful harvests in these particular climatic regimes.

Marketing conditions and cost of production may ultimately override climatic conditions and soil factors as determining factors as whether or not individual commercial-scale farming operations are economically viable in Labrador.

5.7 Strategic Actions

Given the challenges, obstacles and solutions provided for land management development in Labrador to advance the agrifoods industry, the following strategic actions are suggested for implementation.

- **Review existing agriculture land use and update the inventory of activities and compliance inspections.**
- **Continue the on-farm mapping program.**
- **Plan for agriculture land development in the Mud Lake Road area.**
- **Support agricultural development initiatives in Southern Labrador.**
- **Encourage construction of access roads to agricultural areas.**
- **Review Happy Valley - Goose Bay's wellhead protection program to determine impacts on existing and potential agricultural land use.**
- **Conduct soil survey work on specific sites in the Lake Melville area and Labrador West.**
- **Determine areas meriting soil survey along the Southern Labrador**

Highway subject to demand.

- Develop a digital soils database.
- Encourage Beneficial Management Practices (BMP).
- Drainage improvement on peat soil.

Table 1: Meteorological Summary for Six Newfoundland and Labrador Stations.

Canadian Climate Normals (1951-1980)	**Wabush[2]**	**Blanc Sablon[2]**	**St. Anthony[2]**	**Goose Bay[1]**	**Deer Lake[1]**	**St. John's CDA[1]**
Bright Sunshine Monthly Average (hours) May-September	874.9	796.0[1] (Cartwright)	888.7[1] (Daniel's Hr.)	857.7	901.5 (Stephenville)	924.4
Extreme Minimum Temperature °C May-September	-9.4	-4.3	-3.9	-5	-4.3	-2.8
Extreme Maximum Temperature °C May-September	30.2	24.4	26.5	33.5	31.2	28.8
Precipitation (mm) May-September	443.3	476.7	553.1	453.8	416.1	481.5
Degree Days >5°C May-September	779		679.7	991.7	1173.2	1098.6
Degree Days <0°C May-September	16.8		9.1	4.9	0.8	0.6
Annual Precipitation (mm)	851.6	1066.5	1297.6	946.1	1033.1	1594.7
Average Last Frost (spring)				June 5	June 8	June 9
Average First Frost (fall)				Sept. 18	Sept.12	Sept.22
Frost Free Days				104	95	104
Days below 0°C	260.3		249.6	244.62	216.82	203.02
Extreme Min. Temperature Oct.-April °C	-39.5	-25.9	-25.3	-30.9	-26.7	-17.3
Extreme Max. Temperature Oct.-April °C	16.3	11.9	11.6	15.5	18.2	17.5
Average January Temperature °C	-22.7	-13.3	-11.6	-16.4	-6.8	-3.8
Years of Record	30	19	25	30	29	29

Notes: [1] Adapted from Kirby and Linquist. [2] Canadian Climate Normals (1971-2000).

6.0 Environmental Sustainability

Environmental Farm Planning (EFP) is an opportunity for producers in Newfoundland and Labrador to review their land, practices and operations to identify environmental risks. Producers can make informed decisions to assist with improving environmental sustainability and increase profitability. Completing an EFP will provide marketing advantages, especially to those who self market their product. An EFP assists in decreasing environmental risks on farmland and on land surrounding their own farms.

Environmental Farm Plan surveys were mailed to all producers in Newfoundland and Labrador in July 2002. They were mailed again to Labrador producers in February 2003. Producers were requested to complete the survey and return to the EFP Coordinator with the Department of Natural Resources for further development. An environmental scan is the first step in the development of an EFP which provides information about the farm operation. It can then be determined, if there is an immediate risk to the environment and can indicate the producer's thoughts about the process.

Available information regarding environmental issues in Labrador is limited. The issues in Labrador may include: manure management, soil fertility, fuel storage and chemical storage.

Producers can access funds under the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agricultural Policy Framework Agreement to address environmental issues and concerns encountered with farm operations. Addressing these issues and concerns enables producers to access funding opportunities through government and other financial agencies. These funding opportunities can assist with improvements for manure storage, improved hedgerows, shelter belts, living snow fences and chemical storage.

The issues of cross compliance is real and inevitable. An EFP is voluntary but other provinces are currently moving toward making them mandatory.

For the development of agriculture in Labrador, producers should take advantage of the benefits provided by the EFP and consider compliance immediately.

6.1 Strategic Actions

Considering Environmental Farm Planning is advantageous to producers of Newfoundland and Labrador the following strategic actions should take place for the development of the agrifoods industry in Labrador.

- **Promote the Environmental Farm Planning (EFP) Program.**
- **Provide incentives to address any deficiencies identified under EFPs.**

7.0 INFRASTRUCTURE

7.1 Introduction

The commercialization of agriculture in Labrador is in its developmental stages in comparison to other areas of the province. Facilities and support systems are key to developing agrifoods into a viable commercial industry. Significant financial investment, research and development, market development and human resource development had been provided to agriculture in Labrador during the past few years. These resources will continue to be provided based on viable economic agricultural opportunities.

7.2 Existing Infrastructure

Agrifoods Branch, Department of Natural Resources

The Agrifoods Branch has a broad policy development, support and enforcement role relating to agriculture and food production. The branch offers a variety of services, programs and facilities through its six divisions: Farm Business and Evaluation, Extension Services, Production and Marketing, Soil and Land Management, Animal Health and Agrifoods Policy. The Agricultural Products Marketing Board provides services through this Branch as well. The services and programs of each division are described in more detail in Appendix A. Facilities available to the producers of Labrador are listed below.

Limestone Storage

Limestone is currently being stored in the arena on the north side of the Town of Happy Valley - Goose Bay. Producers can access the supply at their convenience from town officials.

Cooperative Equipment

Farm equipment is stored at the Labrador Tree Nursery operated by the Department of Natural Resources. Producers have access to this equipment.

Vegetable Storage Facility

Participants identified the lack of storage facilities for year-round availability of local products during the Public Consultation Session in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. In July 2002, Central Consulting Services Inc. completed a feasibility study for construction and operation of a vegetable storage facility. Funding for the study was provided by the Department of Natural Resources.

The consulting group recommended such a facility is needed and should be located in the Upper Lake Melville area. They stated the presence of a vegetable storage facility will provide producers the opportunity to increase their scale of operation, supply high quality vegetables to the local market, increase commercial farming activities in Zone Three and promote the overall development of agrifoods in Labrador. The total cost to construct this facility as identified in the study is approximately $375,000.

7.3 Strategic Actions

To further advance the agrifoods industry in Labrador from an infrastructure perspective the following strategic actions should be considered.

- **Determine the viability of a vegetable storage facility in Upper Lake Melville.**
- **Determine the need and cost for a limestone storage facility in Upper Lake Melville.**
- **Determine the feasibility of constructing a federally inspected slaughter facility and the cost of constructing livestock housing.**

8.0 PRODUCTION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

8.1 Introduction

In recognition of the interest indicated by residents of Labrador, the Department of Natural Resources has conducted a series of research and development projects, particularly in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. The department also recognizes opportunities exist in Labrador West and Southern Labrador. As time progresses interest may come from Northern Labrador. During the Public Consultation Sessions recommendations were given to continue with research and development initiatives.

8.2 Labrador West

There is limited commercial agriculture production in Labrador West. The Public Consultation Session identified a potential for agrifoods development and it was suggested the Department initiate variety trial plots to assess the horticultural opportunities in the area.

8.3 Happy Valley - Goose Bay

Crop research projects are ongoing at the Labrador Tree Nursery and on private farms. Other areas to consider are alternative livestock feeding system for fur bearers, and other livestock opportunities identified by economic feasibility studies.

Medicinal Herbs

Valerian trials are being conducted with a local producer and funding was provided by the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agri-Food Innovation Program. Another producer is experimenting with ginseng planted in a woods simulated area. The project has experienced success with overwintering and the plants germinated last spring. A demonstration herb garden is located at the Labrador Tree Nursery for public viewing. During the 2002 growing season, trials progressed and a herb drying shed is under construction.

Green Manure and Winter Forage Production

Green Manure and Winter Forage Production trials are being conducted by the Department of Natural Resources. The objective of the Winter Forage Production trials is to research the opportunities to attain self sufficiency on forages and to evaluate different forage varieties for the relatively short growing climate and sandy soils. The Green Manure project will focus on improving soil structure through incorporation of organic matters in the form of green manure crops. The suitability of winter forages and grains is being assessed through on-farm trials. Four, one acre plots were seeded at separate locations to ensure adequate sample size and to assess local variation in growing conditions. Funding was provided through the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agri-Food Innovation Program.

Soil Quality Improvement in Labrador

Soil quality improvement is necessary for the predominantly sandy soils. Research studies were initiated in 2001 to compare the economic and environmental benefits of a landscape prepared with topsoil and surface vegetation removed with a bulldozer, and a landscape prepared with topsoil and surface vegetation incorporated into the soil with a Meri-Crusher.

8.4 Southern Labrador

Southern Labrador has a commercial harvest of bakeapples and partridgeberries and a limited amount of commercial vegetable production occurring on mineral soils. The Southern Labrador Economic Development Association is experimenting with vegetable production on peat soil.

8.5 Strategic Actions

To proceed with the recommendations from the Public Consultation Sessions with respect to production, research and development the following strategic actions should be considered for implementation to ensure the agrifoods industry in Labrador reaches its maximum potential.

- Investigate composting opportunities.
- Conduct a wildberry survey for production yields.
- Conduct burn trials for rejuvenating partridgeberries.
- Conduct seed potato trials.
- Explore secondary processing opportunities for vegetable and wild fruit.
- Explore the potential of fruit (wildberry) juice made from iceberg water.
- Conduct variety trial plots for Labrador.
- Conduct research to determine potential crop and forage production on peat land.
- Research native plant species for their economic benefits.
- Continuation of the Medicinal Herb research project.
- Continuation of the Green Manure and Winter Forage Production project.
- Research the methods of harvesting and production of crowberries (*Empetrum Nigrum*).
- Conduct research in Southern Labrador for improvement of the bakeapple crop.
- Continuation of the Pesticide Applicator licensing program.
- Continuation of the soil quality improvement project.

9.0 ECONOMIC/MARKET DEVELOPMENT

9.1 Introduction

Each region has unique marketing issues critically assessed in this report. The opportunities and recommendations outlined are not inclusive and are presented as general guidelines for cooperative action between various interest groups, producers and government organizations, to exploit marketing opportunities to benefit the industry.

May 2002, a 15 member delegation from Labrador attended the Nunavut Trade Show. The delegations identified business opportunities including agrifoods which have potential between Labrador and Nunavut. The recent announcement of commercial air service between Happy Valley - Goose Bay and Iqaluit enhances this opportunity.

9.2 Labrador West

Fruit & Vegetables

The distribution of fresh fruit and vegetables is done exclusively through wholesalers in Quebec or other parts of Eastern Canada. Distribution is generally routed through terminals in Baie - Comeau and trucked over the gravel highway to Labrador City and points east year round. The trip from Baie - Comeau to Labrador City can take between seven to nine hours. The produce distributed through Baie - Comeau comes from Quebec City food terminals approximately 500 kilometres to the South. Despite the variable road conditions and lengthy distribution channels, fruit and vegetables arrive in good condition and are reasonably priced.

Residents of Labrador City would be receptive to local products and patronize a farm for a source of fresh produce. Producers could create a competitive advantage in the marketplace by promoting their produce as "locally grown." By selling produce directly to the consumer, the producer will receive higher prices. An attractive market with roadside

appeal draws a great deal of business, particularly if the market is cooperatively operated by a number of growers providing a greater variety of products.

Livestock

Direct marketing approach is recommended for individuals in the area who consider it is economically feasible to raise livestock. Feed supplies would have to be imported through Quebec suppliers. Electricity costs are considerably lower compared to other parts of the province. Livestock producers carry a greater risk than vegetable producers due to capital expenditures incurred for barns and slaughter facilities. Capital expenditures can create economic barriers. An economic assessment for this commodity needs to be completed.

Fur

A participant of the Public Consultation Session identified an opportunity to expand fur production in the north. A major challenge would be the sourcing of wet feedstuffs for production. Market prices for fur are cyclical in nature and can vary from year to year which also creates a challenge for this industry.

Landscape Horticulture

The landscape horticulture industry is the fastest growing agriculture sector in the province. There are opportunities in this area for a greenhouse operation specializing in ornamental annual and perennial plants.

9.3 Happy Valley- Goose Bay

Fruit & Vegetables

This area has a limited supply of locally produced fresh fruit and vegetables. Certain food prices may be higher compared to other parts of the province especially during winter months. Retailers have a high dependancy on the limited number of wholesalers shipping to Happy Valley - Goose Bay during the winter months. This is an opportunity for producers to gain better prices for their produce provided they have a suitable storage facility and can ensure retailers of a consistent supply.

To ensure a consistent supply of produce, producers in the region must expand and

new operations should commence. The value of their produce will increase by selling directly to the consumer and will create demand. With proper promotional tactics consumers will apply pressure to the retailers to stock local produce.

Many residents of Canadian Forces Base Goose Bay are European. Farmer Markets in Europe are patronized by local consumers on a regular basis. A centralized local Farm Market is an opportunity for producers to market their products and could facilitate the sale of beef, caribou, vegetables, fresh berries, small fruit preserves and eggs.

With a population of approximately 10,000 people in the region the market for various commodities is as follows:

Table 2. Market potential for the Happy Valley / Goose Bay Region and Labrador

Commodity	Happy Valley /Goose Bay		Labrador	
Vegetables				
Potatoes	592,000 kg	*1,300,000 lbs*	2,068,000 kg	*4,550,000 lbs*
Cabbage	39,000 kg	*86,000 lbs*	136,000 kg	*299,000 lbs*
Turnip	12,000 kg	*26,000 lbs*	41,000 kg	*91,000 lbs*
Carrots	62,000 kg	*136,000 lbs*	217,000 kg	*476,000 lbs*
Beets	2,000 kg	*5,000 lbs*	9,000 kg	*19,000 lbs*
Meats				
Turkey	33,000 kg	*73,000 lbs*	117,000 kg	*257,000 lbs*
Beef	245,000 kg	*539,000 lbs*	855,000 kg	*1,881,000 lbs*
Pork	230,000 kg	*506,000 lbs*	805,000 kg	*1,771,000 lbs*
Lamb	8,000 kg	*18,000 lbs*	28,000 kg	*62,000 kg*
Supply Managed Commodities				
Milk	50,000 litres		1,742,000 litres	
Chicken	241,000 kg	*530,000 lbs*	843,000 kg	*1,855,000 lbs*
Eggs	127,000 dozen		445,000 dozen	

* Based on National Per Capita Consumption Rates

Livestock

Meat processing businesses are located in Happy Valley - Goose Bay. This provides opportunities for producers to consider expansion.

Fur

Happy Valley - Goose Bay produces quality ranch furs and this is attributed to the pristine northern environment. Current market prices are cyclical in nature and wet feedstuffs sources are a challenge and should be taken into consideration prior to expansion.

Landscape Floriculture

There are three greenhouse operations in Happy Valley - Goose Bay supplying products for the ornamental market. Demand for these products is strong and is expected to continue. It is driven by the interest of consumers in beautifying residential and commercial properties.

Egg, Chicken and Dairy

Supply managed business opportunities for Labrador continues to be discussed on a regular basis. Participants at the Public Consultation Session in Happy Valley - Goose Bay emphasized the need for egg, chicken and dairy quotas. Government has recognized the importance of considering the role of supply management in the Labrador region and has indicated that a review of potential opportunities in supply management will be undertaken. An in-depth analysis will be required for all components of the supply management system; processing, transportation, feed and forage acquisition, cost of production, marketing, supply management administration and other livestock considerations. Establishing an egg, chicken or dairy operation requires considerable investment along with significant risk. Assessment of the viability of supply managed operations is key for potential new entrants to the industry.

A thorough analysis of supply management for the Labrador region will be undertaken as it relates to primary production and processing for eggs, dairy and chicken.

9.4 Southern Labrador

Fruit & Vegetables

Most of the locally produced vegetables are marketed through the area's retail stores. These vegetables are cleaned and graded on the farm, however, limited storage capacity necessitates immediate marketing. It is estimated storage capacity facilitates suitable storage up to the end of December. The area's only vegetable operation has expanded since it started six years ago. It has been indicated other areas of Southern Labrador may have soil resources suitable for agriculture production.

There are four local buyers of native wildberries in the region, one reseller and one secondary processor. The Trans Labrador Highway is now connected to Cartwright and provides opportunities for additional harvest of wild fruit. Several Newfoundland and Labrador manufacturers process jams, jellies, syrups, juices, wines, brandies and liqueurs utilizing local berries. These products are unique and are marketable.

The Labrador Straits is an avenue for icebergs travelling down from the North. This supply of ice is dependable each year and creates a tourism attraction. The ice is harvested and utilized for bottled water and spirits. Juice produced from iceberg water and wildberries to create a speciality juice has market potential.

Livestock

Existing infrastructure presents significant challenges for the development of commercial livestock enterprises. Non ruminant livestock can be raised utilizing commercial feed whereas ruminant livestock requires forage. Production or purchasing of forage feed is expensive thus creating commercial production questionable. Further cost analysis should be undertaken.

Fur

Fur ranching has potential as the climate is conducive for raising quality pelts. The cost of premixed feeds and/or wet feedstuffs is a challenge to the industry that would require an economic feasibility study to be conducted.

Landscape Floriculture

The landscape floriculture industry in Newfoundland and Labrador has garnered

substantial growth in urban and rural communities. The completion of the Trans Labrador Highway provides potential for additional market opportunities. The demand for turf grass sod has increased; and given the vast amount of bog land in the area an opportunity may exist for a sod farm.

9.5 Farm Cooperative

During the Public Consultation Sessions there was an expression of interest in forming a Farm Cooperative in Happy Valley - Goose Bay area. The local agricultural association can take advantage of the following opportunities:

- *Make collective purchases to reduce feed, fertilizer and general input costs associated with agriculture;*
- *Collective marketing through a farm market can provide a wider variety of products, which will attract more customers and increase sales;*
- *Secondary processing of vegetables such as slicing, dicing and vacuum packaging can provide convenience items to one of the fastest growing food categories within the province; and*
- *Joint marketing efforts such as advertisements in local newspapers and creating a unifying logo can create consumer awareness within the marketplace.*

9.6 Strategic Actions

During the Public Consultation Sessions the participants indicated they would prefer local agricultural products as opposed to imported products and would like the opportunity to develop the agrifoods industry in Labrador to become self sufficient where possible. The following strategic actions have been developed and should be considered for implementation.

- **Investigate the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Northern Food Production in Canada.**

- Conduct economic analysis to ascertain the feasibility of primary and secondary production of supply management commodities, eg. egg, chicken and dairy.
- Conduct cost of production studies for agricultural opportunities in Labrador.
- Prepare agricultural business profiles for Labrador.
- Investigate the expansion of the meat industry as a viable opportunity.
- Explore the potential for expansion of ranched fur in Labrador.
- Determine the feasibility of farmers' markets.
- Encourage the method of cooperative actions for purchasing and collective marketing of farm products.
- Explore the potential market and feasibility for peat sod production in Southern Labrador.
- Encourage the promotion of landscape floriculture.
- Explore the implications for establishing harvesting dates for bakeapples.
- Explore opportunities between Labrador and Nunavut.
- Explore and promote Agri - Tourism opportunities, eg. local berry products to tourists.
- Develop an agricultural awareness program for Labrador.
- Provide articles to the Labradorian Newspaper, e.g., home gardening, gardening in the north.

10.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

10.1 Introduction

An important aspect of this Strategy is to enhance human resource development. To implement the strategic actions it is essential to provide the components of adequate training and education to farm managers, farm families, farm workers, and service providers.

Training sessions on farm management, wildcrafting, vegetable production, pesticide applicator licensing and forage production have been provided in recent years to stakeholders of Labrador.

To enhance and expand the agrifoods industry, the Human Resource Development Initiative will provide assistance to develop farm business management skills and knowledge through workshops, seminars, conferences and travel and exchange. Emphasis will be placed on, but not limited to, training opportunities related to business risk management, renewal, science and innovation, on-farm safety, food safety and food quality, and the environment.

Agricultural information and educational resources are available from the agrifoods website and various newsletters and publications. The Initiative will fund training needs assessments and the development of curriculum specifically designed for the Newfoundland and Labrador agrifoods industry.

Training opportunities may be coordinated by the Department's Agrifoods Branch with the following Institutions.

- College of the North Atlantic
- Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Nova Scotia Agricultural College
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Canadian Farm Business Management Council
- Eastern Canada Soil and Water Conservation Centre

- Others

10.2 Skills Development

The College of the North Atlantic has assisted in curriculum development and program delivery of an Information Technology Program offered in the Discovery Zone. A similar program can be considered for Labrador.

The Department of Natural Resources provides Pesticide Applicator Licensing training in Labrador. This training, based on demand, is for individuals requiring a pesticide applicator license.

It is advantageous to government and industry to acquire a qualified professional to conduct a needs assessment. This assessment will determine the training required for stakeholders interested in agricultural development.

10.3 Strategic Actions

To advance any industry and to ensure it reaches its fullest capacity, it is essential to have skilled and well qualified professionals. The following strategic actions are being suggested and should be considered to assist with the advancement of the agrifoods industry in Labrador.

- **Conduct a needs assessment to ascertain the skills & training required.**
- **Develop training sessions specifically suited for Labrador producers.**
- **Offer workshops and seminars for agribusiness planning, financial management, research and development, production, marketing and other training gaps identified by the needs assessment.**
- **Provide producers the opportunity to acquire agricultural knowledge and expertise through travel and exchange projects.**
- **Recruit additional staff for program implementation.**

- **Encourage and support beginning producers through the New Entrants Development Initiative.**
- **Encourage the establishment of a 4-H Club or youth agricultural activities.**

11.0 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

11.1 Introduction

A challenge to any organization involved in agriculture extension is the ability and requirement to provide accurate information. The electronic world has revolutionized information transfer and the agricultural community must adapt to this technology.

Personal computers provide a new method for information exchange and have made the words "INTERNET" and "E-MAIL" common household names. Today, these resources are directed to be "ON-LINE." The establishment of a website is common to most government departments, schools, universities and businesses.

E-Mail, ICQ and web cameras are communication tools available through personal computers used at work and home.

11.2 Provincial Agrifoods Website

The Department of Natural Resources has an extensive website, http://www.gov.nf.ca/agric and agricultural information is easily accessible. Stakeholders have access to information via the Internet from a home, school or library. The Internet is particularly useful to rural areas of the province. Smart Labrador sites are located in 23 Labrador communities providing high speed Internet access and remaining communities have dial up access.

11.3 Agricultural Resource Centre

Agriculture has a history in Labrador and the information compiled has stimulated individuals and groups to engage in agricultural activities. This information can be easily accessible to all people with the establishment of an Agricultural Resource Centre.

The Department of Natural Resources recently published a newsletter, AGRI-ACTION. This newsletter can highlight agricultural activities in Labrador.

11.4 Strategic Actions

To develop the agrifoods industry in Labrador it will be essential for producers and other interested stakeholders to have access to accurate information for the advancement of this industry. The strategic actions identified below should be considered for implementation.

- **Provide training to those interested in learning about the information technology world.**
- **Encourage the establishment of an Agricultural Resource Centre for Labrador.**

12.0 CIRCUMPOLAR AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

12.1 Introduction

The Circumpolar Agricultural Association (CAA) was founded in 1995 on the ideas of the 1st Circumpolar Agricultural Conference held in Whitehorse, Yukon in 1992. It is a Non-Government Association as understood by the United Nation definition. Membership of the Association consists of individual members, institutions, universities, national or subnational organizations, or companies. The Association provides the framework for the exchange of information in northern agriculture science, practices and policies.

An activity of the CAA is to sponsor the Circumpolar Agricultural Conference and four conferences have been held in the circumpolar north. The 5th conference will be held in Umeå, Sweden in 2004.

Objectives

The objectives of the Association as outlined in Article 3 of its constitution are:

- To organize Circumpolar Agricultural Conferences.
- To encourage the exchange of information, material and technology of agriculture and rural development in circumpolar areas.
- To circulate a newsletter for agriculture and rural development in circumpolar area.
- To establish and maintain relations with other organizations whose interests are related to the objectives of the Association.

12.2 Labrador Involvement in CAA

The Department of Natural Resources became involved with the Circumpolar Agricultural Association in 2001. Representatives of the Department of Natural Resources attended the conference held in Iceland in August 2001. Representatives of the National

Research Council - Industrial Research assistance Program and the Canadian Technology Network also attended the conference and gave a presentation on their programs and services and their involvement with agricultural activities in the north. Mr. Otto Goulding of the Department of Natural Resources was elected to the Board of Directors of the CAA during this conference and holds the position of Vice President. He is responsible for providing producers with the exchange of information, material and technology of agriculture and rural development in circumpolar areas.

Labrador will be participating in this Association providing opportunities for them to liaise with other northern regions of the world. Alaska, USA and Norway have done extensive research in bakeapple (cloudberry) production, this information can be shared with the producers of Labrador for further development of their bakeapple production.

A conference is held every three years and representation will provide the opportunity to make contact with the top leaders involved in circumpolar agriculture. Labrador should pursue the opportunity to host the Circumpolar Agriculture Conference in 2007.

12.3 Strategic Actions

One way to advance any industry, particularly the agrifoods industry is the exchange of information with other towns, cities, provinces, countries and states who are operating in similar conditions. The Circumpolar Agriculture Association can certainly benefit the agricultural stakeholders of Labrador. The identified strategic actions are suggested for implementation to assist the interested agricultural community in Labrador.

- **Encourage the formation of a Circumpolar Agriculture Association Committee (CAA).**
- **Support individuals to attend and make presentations at the CAA conference.**
- **Encourage Labrador to host the CAA conference in 2007.**

13.0 STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

13.1 Introduction

The Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy is a long term integrated approach to move the agrifoods industry forward in Labrador. Implementation of this strategy will require commitment by the federal and provincial governments, development agencies, producers, processors and all involved in the industry to maximize the economic benefits of agrifoods in Labrador. Collaboration amongst all stakeholders will ensure that producers have the opportunity to avail of all potential resources and it will create efficiencies in the use of the resources in Labrador.

13.2 Implementation of Strategic Actions

The Department of Natural Resources will attempt to address the strategic actions identified in this Strategy by utilizing resources currently available in the Department, as well as programs and initiatives under the APF Implementation Agreement. Having $1.5 million allocated for the Northern Agrifoods Initiative under the APF programming will be a mechanism to provide the agrifood industry in Labrador the tools to capture opportunities to strengthen and diversify the industry over the next five years.

Proposals for funds must be APF compliant and contribute to the economic viability of commercial agricultural development in Labrador. The following outlines the APF programs and how they will be beneficial in working towards the strategic actions discussed in the Strategy.

Food Safety and Food Quality Element

Food Safety and Quality Program - Initiatives under this program will enhance the agrifoods industry's ability to produce safe high quality food for our consumers. All livestock and crop producers regardless of being involved in primary or value-added production must ensure that the proper mechanisms have been initiated to ensure the safety of the food produced. This program includes initiatives related to on-farm food safety, traceability and regulatory compliance. All strategic actions discussed pertaining to food production must ensure that food produced in the northern region meet and exceed consumer's expectations and comply with industry regulations. Producers will have the opportunity to avail of funding under this program to ensure that the local food products are of the highest quality and safety.

Environment Element

Environment Farm Planning Program - This program will allow producers the opportunity to complete farm scans and plans to determine the Beneficial Management Practices (BMP's) to correct potential environmental risks on the farm. Producers will be given the opportunity to identify environmental issues on their farm in order to work towards corrective actions.

Strategic actions that could be addressed through this Program:

- **Completion of Environmental Farm Plans**
- **Address deficiencies identified under EFPs**

Soil, Air and Water Quality Conservation and Enhancement Program - This program contains initiatives to deal with the stewardship of the soil, air and water resources. Initiatives involving pest management, soil resources, nutrient management and

environmental planning will be very beneficial to Labrador when dealing with some of the regional items highlighted during the Public Consultation Sessions.

Examples of strategic actions that could be addressed through this Program:

- **Pesticide Applicator Licensing**
- **Soil Quality Improvement**
- **On-Farm Mapping**
- **Soil Surveys**
- **Digital Soils Database Development**

Renewal Element

Agrifoods Business Development Program - This program will provide the tools and services to help farmers acquire the skills and resources to improve their profitability. Initiatives involving the development of business planning, human resources, markets, new entrants, succession planning and rural agriculture are the key focus of this program. Producers in Labrador can avail of the many renewal services available to capture opportunities for business growth, diversification and value-added.

Examples of strategic actions that could be addressed through this Program:

- **Cost of Production Studies**
- **Evaluation of Supply Management Feasibility in Labrador**
- **Training specific to Labrador Producers**
- **Feasibility Studies pertaining to issues such as storage facilities**
- **Encourage and support of beginning producers**
- **Investigate the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Northern Food Production in Canada**

Technology Adoption Program - This program is aimed at developing innovative approaches to the diversification and commercialization of the agrifoods industry in the province. Initiatives under this program are designed to provide support to implement new

technology, diversification, secondary processing and product development activities.

Examples of strategic actions that could be addressed through this Program:

- **Explore Secondary Processing Opportunities**
- **Research Native Plant Species**
- **Medicinal Herb Research**
- **Crop and Forage Production Research**
- **Conduct Variety Trials Plots in Labrador**
- **Conduct Seed Potato Trials**

Science and Innovation Element

The Department of Natural Resources will provide a contribution to an Agrifood and Rural Research Program. This program is aimed at increasing scientific collaboration amongst governments, academic/research institutes, organizations and industry, extending knowledge on the value, benefits and issues concerning new agrifood technologies, developing and co-ordinating agrifood life science research programs among institutions and attracting investment by creating visibility and awareness for the agricultural technology industries.

Business Risk Management Element

Farmers in Labrador will also have the opportunity to avail of the programs under this element. Business risk management (BRM) programming consists of an integrated system of programs that cover risk and provide producers with more choice to promote long term profitability. The BRM element includes the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program which will be broadened to include supply managed commodities and will provide both income stabilization and income disaster protection. The Production Insurance Program will provide broader coverage and more options for farmers and will be

fully introduced by 2006.

13.3 Addressing Challenges Outside the Scope of APF

Not all of the issues discussed at the Public Consultation Sessions can be addressed with the APF programs. The following are challenges outlined at the Public Consultation Sessions beyond the domain of APF:

- land availability: mining companies control most of the land (Labrador West)
- land leasing policy
- policy for residential development on agricultural leases
- access to capital and operating funds
- telephone services
- freight costs for produce and equipment impede farm development in Labrador
- zoned land base available is limited
- stumpage fees

It is the intent of the Department of Natural Resources to coordinate with the appropriate government departments to address these challenges where possible.

13.4 Strategic Partnerships Beyond APF

It should be noted that the Agricultural Policy Framework Program is a five year program, and all strategic actions cannot be addressed within five years. Other program options will need to be explored in order to implement this Strategy.

This Strategy is a long term process for the Labrador region and in order to fully utilize the findings of this document, industry must avail of all strategic partnerships with the Department of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and other stakeholders which can assist them in their development. The Department of Natural

Resources has partnered in the past with industry and has been very successful in its efforts to grow and diversify the industry. Producers themselves must also work co-operatively to effectively utilize the resources available to ensure the industry's success. This type of approach will allow the agrifoods industry in Labrador the opportunity to strengthen primary and value-added production and allow for further diversification.

It will also be necessary for the Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy to be reviewed on a periodic basis by the Steering Committee/Working Group. This will ensure that the strategic actions and the implementation of those actions are appropriate for Labrador and changes will be made as the Strategy evolves.

APPENDIX A

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Appendix A: Programs and Services

1.0 Programs and Services

Strategy implementation will require contributions from Government and Industry. Several programs and services are identified in this section.

1.1 Agrifoods Branch

Departmental programs and services will assist the implementation of this Strategy through its six divisions: Farm Business and Evaluation, Extension Services, Production and Marketing, Soil and Land Management, Animal Health and Agrifoods Policy. The Agricultural Products Marketing Board provides services, as well. To access these programs and services, contact a representative of the Department of Natural Resources. The services and programs are:

1.1.1 Farm Business and Evaluation

Farm Business and Evaluation is responsible for the planning, development and delivery of financial and farm management policies and programs. Divisional staff provide advisory services to the farming community consisting of business management, financial management, information services, and policy analysis on a variety of related issues. The staff are responsible for coordination and delivery of the Agriculture Policy Framework Agreement and other on-farm development financial and nonfinancial incentives under various Federal/Provincial cost-shared programs.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Farm Business Management Services and Programs provide a variety of business management services to the farming community. Consultation and advice is provided to individual producers or groups on many topics: business planning, record keeping, preparation of financial statements, financial analysis, income tax management, farm transfers, labour management, production management, and financial assessment of agricultural proposals and opportunities.

Farm Business Management resource material such as fact sheets, books, and other publications are available to farmers upon request from regional offices.

Agriculture Policy Framework Agreement has several Elements with Initiatives to provide agricultural development in Labrador. Details on this agreement can be obtained by visiting website www.agr.gc.ca/cb/apf or contacting a representative of the Department of Natural Resources.

Livestock Insurance Program is a provincial program designed to provide insurance to producers for the loss or injury of sheep, goats, dairy cattle, or beef cattle caused by dogs or other predators. For further information contact a representative of the Department of Natural Resources.

1.1.2 Extension Services

Extension Services is responsible for the identification, development and promotion of economic opportunities for the province; the design, delivery and evaluation of agricultural extension programs such as the 4-H Program, agricultural fairs and exhibitions, and the Provincial Pasture Program; the development and implementation of agricultural training programs and services for farmers; and the provision of front-line extension services to farmers including crop and livestock management required to advance the industry and encourage new entrants into agriculture.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Provincial Seed Potato Program objective is to provide quality seed potatoes to Newfoundland and Labrador producers to strengthen and expand the industry.

Provincial Pasture Program will provide and increase the grazing capacity of community pastures across the province in order to develop the livestock sector.

4-H Program is a rural, community-based organization which develops life skills such as citizenship, leadership, cooperation, responsibility and independence in Canadian youth through achievement in skill development projects. 4-H is active primarily in rural communities where economies are based on agriculture and natural resources.

Provincial Training Program provides assistance for producers to participate in training sessions, conferences, workshops and travel and exchange. Information and knowledge gained through these training sessions enables the producer to become more effective in operating and managing their farm operations.

Fall Fairs and Exhibitions create opportunities to increase awareness and interest in the agrifoods industry and it provides producers with the opportunity to expand their markets.

1.1.3 Production and Marketing Division

Production and Marketing is responsible for the development of production, marketing support, provision of technical advisory services to farmers, program development and policy review to maximize the use of resources for the production and marketing of livestock, poultry, fruits, vegetables and related products. This division

Appendix A: Programs and Services

comprises of four sections: Livestock and Poultry Services, Fruit and Vegetable Production, Market Development, Statistics and Economics. Specialists exist in areas for poultry, sheep, beef, dairy, swine, fur, livestock ,nutrition, fruits, vegetables, marketing, and economics. The available programs and services are:

Fruit and Vegetable Production provides specialized technical and scientific support to the crop sector of the industry in the areas of research, new crop development, and pest management services.

Alternative Feeds Program conducts research into the growing and handling of local grains, new feed crops such as corn and protein crops to reduce the cost of feed to the livestock and poultry sectors. It investigates the use of alternative feeds such as food industry waste and fish by-products.

Livestock and Poultry Services provide specialized technical support and services to the livestock and poultry industries in the areas of research, development, technology transfer and technical advisory services (On Farm Milk Recording Program and Udder Health Program). Other associated livestock and poultry services are Poultry Health Management and Infectious Laryngotracheitis Control.

Market Development Services provides marketing services to assist industry in the identification, development, and promotion of domestic and international market opportunities. Timely and accurate marketing information is provided through ongoing market research and dissemination of information to industry clients.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

It promotes increased awareness and interest in the Province's Agrifoods Industry and promotes increased sales of local agrifoods products through the development of promotional programs and participation in fairs, exhibitions and trade shows.

The development of value-added products is facilitated through client consultations in collaboration and cooperation with other government departments, agencies and industry organizations.

Agrifoods Awareness Program is a federal/provincial initiative designed to revitalize the image of the agri-food sector amongst Canadians. Its main objective is to identify and promote: food quality and food safety, environmental sustainability, the quality of life and the standard of living by rural and urban Canadians, and innovation and technology in the agrifoods sector.

Statistics and Economic Services provide the Agrifoods Branch and industry with supporting the area of statistical and economic analysis including: cost of production analysis; evaluation of the economic feasibility of new opportunities in livestock and group production, new feeds, value-added or processed products; and, the development and maintenance of provincial statistics.

Drainage Services/Holyrood Depot provides maintenance support for ditching equipment servicing bogland. Subsurface drainage on mineral soil and peatland drainage service is provided. Research and development projects are conducted and specialized support to various demonstration projects, such as vegetable and sod production on bogland and regional pastures is provided.

Pesticide Training Program provides training based on demand for individuals requiring a pesticide applicator license.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

New Alternative Crops Program provides resources to conduct research and development for crops new to the agrifoods industry of Newfoundland and Labrador. Research is currently being conducted on cranberries and medicinal herbs.

1.1.4 Agricultural Products Marketing Board (APMB)

This Marketing Board is a government legislated body having the authority to control and direct the operations of the commodity boards. This board is responsible for protecting the consumer against the abuse or misuse of the power and authority given to producers through the commodity marketing boards. Also, individuals or groups who feel they have been grieved by actions or decisions of the commodity boards can appeal to the APMB.

1.1.5 Soil and Land Management Division

Soil and Land Management is responsible for all aspects of agricultural soil and land management. It develops and delivers programs and policies encouraging sound management of agriculture land base. This division is comprised of eight sections: Soil Survey, Land Use Planning, Land Drainage, Soil and Water Conservation, Laboratory Analytical and Advisory Services, Access Roads/Electrical Services and Mapping. For information on any of these services, contact a representative of the Department of Natural Resources.

Agriculture Access Road and Electrical Program provides for the construction and maintenance of public roads and electrical services to enhance agriculture. The program covers more than 330 kilometres of roads, ensures roads are maintained at an appropriate level normally beyond the capability of producers. Enables agriculture to increase farm

Appendix A: Programs and Services

efficiency and promote development of the industry. The following services are provided by the program.

- Construction or reconstruction of off-farm access roads, construction or replacement of bridges-culverts and access to undeveloped suitable agriculture land.
- Provides electrical service to new farm units or to farm units to increase production and efficiency.

Agricultural Drainage Program provides environmentally responsible and economically feasible drainage solutions for the improvement of mineral and organic soils for agricultural use.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Program provides on-farm land use and property mapping, detailed to regional soils mapping, and related GIS based products and services. On-farm and soil resource mapping is vital to farming operations for economic, agronomic and environmental purposes.

Land Use Program pursues the identification and promotion of expansion areas for new and existing farms expanding in the Labrador Region. Several producers are attempting to clear land to become established and the Mud Lake Road area is being considered for future agricultural purposes.

On-Farm Mapping Program provides the farming community with the preparation of a physical inventory of farm resources including land and soil and cropping practises. Information is interpreted from the inventory for both short and long term soil management and crop production plans.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Property Tax Exemption Program for Agricultural Land is designed to identify productive farm land and farm buildings used in connection with farm production that may be eligible for exemption from real property tax in accordance with The Municipalities Act. It may apply to individuals who are productively using agricultural land, whether it is owned, leased or rented.

Soil, Plant and Feed Laboratory provides analytical and advisory services to assist the farming community to increase agricultural productivity and fertilizer efficiency. An analysis is conducted of the farmers' soil, plant and feed samples. The Laboratory analyses and advises on manure, compost, new feeds which may replace traditional imported feeds, animal tissues and limestone samples.

Soil Fertility & Limestone Program promotes the use of agricultural limestone in order for farmers to achieve improved crop yields, and more cost effective use of expansive fertilizers.

Soil Survey Program provides information on the Province's soil resources to the farming community and the general public. The principal activity of the program is the characterization of soils, soil properties and soil suitability for agriculture and the spatial representation of the information by mapping. This information is instrumental in developing, planning, and management of Agricultural Development Areas, and the expansion of the productive land base of individual farms.

Environmental Farm Planning Program encourages producers in Newfoundland and Labrador to review their land, practices and operations to identify environmental risks. Producers can make informed decisions to assist with improving environmental sustainability and increasing profitability.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

1.1.6 Animal Health Division

Animal Health Division has a general mandate to be involved in any aspect of animal health in the public interest. This includes, but not limited to, the provision of farm animal veterinary service, the control of food quality (at the production or primary processing level for meat and milk), the control of specific animal diseases (e.g., rabies, infectious laryngotracheitis), the investigation of cruelty to animals complaints and the provision of assistance to wildlife officials where appropriate. The following programs and services are available. To acquire further information on any of the programs, contact a representative of the Department of Natural Resources.

Laboratory Services provided by Animal Health Division operates three distinct though connected laboratories: Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Food Quality Laboratory and satellite diagnostic laboratory (Pynn's Brook Regional Office).

Laboratory efficiency is monitored through the Laboratory Accreditation Program (Canadian Laboratory Services), and other contracted or in-house quality assurance programs.

Farm Animal Veterinary Service is provided by Regional Veterinarians and Poultry Veterinarian. They are responsible for routine and emergency services to the Province's livestock operators based on an established fee schedule. The Regional Veterinarian located in Gander's Agrifoods office will attend to animal health needs of Labrador clients upon request. Depending upon the severity of the situation and the number of animals involved, services will be supplied by phone or in person. A supply of commonly used drugs is stocked in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Cruelty to Animals Investigations is carried out by the Director, Regional Veterinarians and Agricultural Inspectors. These individuals investigate complaints of cruelty to farm animals, while agents of the SPCA investigate complaints involving pets. When necessary the Division and the SPCA will act together.

Poultry Health Management Program supports the Health Management of the broiler and layer industries. It is managed by contract with Country Ribbon Inc. and the Egg Producers of Newfoundland and Labrador. The contracts include: routine analysis of management, production and environmental data, review of mortality data, post mortem examinations, and laboratory analyses of feed, water, eggs, tissues, serum and environmental samples.

Diseases of significant economic or national concern such as Salmonella Enteritidis and *Infectious Laryngotracheitis* are monitored and controlled as necessary.

Dairy Farm Inspection Program occurs on a monthly basis. All dairy farms in the province have milk samples taken from their bulk tanks for milk quality testing. These samples come to the Division's Food Quality Laboratory where they are tested for antibiotics, freezing point, somatic cell count, bacterial count, milk components and sediment. These tests help assure milk comes from healthy cows. It is transported through a clean, dry milking system and properly refrigerated to avoid bacterial growth.

The standards are established by the National Liaison Group on Milk Products Quality. Testing systems and controls are evaluated by the Canadian Laboratory Service's Laboratory Accreditation Program to assure results accurately reflect the composition of the milk.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Meat Inspection Program focus is to protect the health of the public. It is mandatory under the Newfoundland and Labrador Meat inspection Act all slaughter, except for personal consumption, be done in a licensed facility. The actual inspection of individual animals is optional and is primarily for the purpose of gaining access to larger markets.

There are two levels of meat inspection. Canadian Food Inspection Agency operates a program allowing meat to move between provinces and internationally. In Newfoundland and Labrador a federally registered abattoir is owned by Country Ribbon Inc. which processes broiler chicken.

The Province operates an inspection program for meats only to be sold within the Province. There are currently 31 abattoirs licensed by this Department processing hog, turkey, chicken, lamb and beef.

Heritage Animals Program supports and promotes certain breeds or kinds of animals having an attachment to the province's history. The Newfoundland Pony and the Labrador Husky are named the two heritage animals of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Dairy Herd analysis Service (DHAS) is now referred to as the Atlantic Dairy Livestock Improvement Corporation (ADLIC). ADLIC is responsible for administering an on-farm milk recording program based in Moncton, New Brunswick. Official milk recording service is completed by the individual producers and unofficial milk recording is completed by the Provincial Dairy Management Specialist. This information is forwarded to ADLIC and is interpreted by a computer program determining information such as calving dates, dry dates, cows to breed, etc. for the producer. It also provides historical information on each cow to allow the producer to make management decisions. This service is provided to the producer for a payment fee.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Agri-Lacta is a computerized management information service for dairy farmers. Newfoundland and Labrador farmers access this service through the Atlantic Dairy Livestock Improvement Corporation. The service provides -for a fee per cow per month- data collection, compilation, processing and interpretation of results for several factors pertaining to milk processing.

1.1.7 Agrifoods Policy

This Division has several responsibilities and provides support to all Divisions of the Agrifoods Branch. The services they provide include: Executive Support, Policy and Program Development, Strategic Planning and Agrifoods Information Dissemination.

1.2 Agricultural Federal Programs and Services

Several Federal Programs and Services are administered jointly by the Federal and Provincial Governments. A list of these programs and services are as follows. To obtain more information on any of the programs, contact a representative of the Department of Natural Resources or visit website www.gov.nf.ca/agric or www.agr.gc.ca. The program information on these websites will continually be updated as information is available and programs are finalized.

Production Insurance Program is a federal/provincial program providing producers with income protection against uncontrollable natural perils such as effects of drought, excessive moisture, wind, frost, hail, snow, wildlife, disease and insects. Production Insurance does not cover losses created by poor farming practices. Crops covered includes cabbage, potato, turnip, beet, parsnip and carrot (peat and mineral soil).

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization Program (CAIS) is a new income stabilization and protection program, which will establish the first permanent system for disaster assistance. It has been designed to offer Canadian farmers comprehensive and equitable protection for both large and small income declines.

CAIS has been undertaken as part of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF), will provide affordable levels of coverage that producers can tailor to their particular circumstances. It will target government funds effectively to those in need, while conveniently combining into one program, income stabilization and disaster assistance. For additional information about the program, visit the APF website: www.agr.gc.ca/cb/apf , or telephone 1 866-367-8506.

Canadian Farm Income Program (CFIP) was in place for the 2000, 2001 and 2002 taxation years. It provided short-term income support to active producers who experienced an extreme reduction in farming income for reasons beyond their control. The program provided support in addition to the core safety-net package of the Net Income Stabilization Account (NISA), crop insurance and other agriculture programs offered to producers.

Newfoundland and Labrador Agri - Adapt Council Inc. (AACI) provides funding for innovative projects designed to foster increased long term growth, self-reliance, partnerships, employment and competitiveness for NL's agriculture and agri-food sectors, and rural communities. Funding is provided to the Council from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's $60 million per year Canadian Adapation and Rural Development (CARD) fund. AACI targets projects that will help to develop a vibrant agricultural and agri-food sectors

Appendix A: Programs and Services

and the rural economy in Newfoundland and Labrador in four key areas, consistent with the Card II priorities:

- innovation as a foundation for competitiveness
- human resource capacity-building
- marketing
- environmental sustainability

Spring Credit Advance Program (SCAP) provides producers who experience short-term cash flow difficulties with funds needed to plant crops.

Canadian Farm Business Advisory Services (CFBAS) Program will provides Canadian producers access to a range of business planning advisory services including business plans, farm succession plans, marketing plans, and risk management plans to help meet goals they have set for their businesses. Both financial and nonfinancial assistance is available to the producers for development of these services.

Farm Debt Mediation Services (FDMS) provide insolvent farmers and their creditors with mediation services pursuant to the federal Farm Debt Mediation Act (FDMA) and Regulations to help them arrive at a mutually satisfactory arrangement. This service is private, confidential and economical alternative to the often costly, public and drawn-out process of resolving insolvency disputes in the courts.

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) offers a wide range of financing products and services supporting farmer-controlled diversification initiatives and value-added operations beyond the farm gate. Primary producers heading small and medium-sized operations form the majority of FCC's clientele. FCC delivers joint programs and services with government agencies and financial institutions. For further information visit website, www.fcc.sca.ca or

contact Newfoundland and Labrador office at 1 800 387-3232 or (709) 772-4635.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

1.3 Other Programs and Services

The Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs primary role is to coordinate and act as an advocacy for Labrador and Aboriginal issues. When requested, this department will act as a referral body to other Departments and Agencies. For further information contact a representative of the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs or visit their website, www.gov.nl.ca/lla

Innovation Trade and Rural Development provides business counselling and training services ranging from basic bookkeeping to business planning. Their financial programs consist of Seed Equity Capital and Business Market Development. For further information contact a representative of the Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development or visit their website, www.gov.nl.ca/itrd

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) programs assist individuals and organizations involved in agriculture through a Business Development Program for secondary processing. A program for women is administered by the Newfoundland and Labrador Organization for Women Entrepreneurs, (NLOWE). Youth interested in becoming involved in agriculture may inquire about the youth program administered by the Labrador Community Development Corporation. For further information, contact an ACOA representative or visit their website, www.acoa.ca

Business Development Corporation (BDC) has a wide range of flexible financing products to assist farming operations whether it is a small, a medium or a large corporation. To obtain detailed information on their programs and services, visit their website at www.bdc.ca.

Appendix A: Programs and Services

Chartered Banks have financial services available to small, medium and large corporate entities to assist with expansion, diversification or stabilization of existing farm operation. For further information contact a representative of any chartered bank.

APPENDIX B

REPORT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

NORTHERN AGRIFOODS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

FOR

LABRADOR

Appendix B: Report of Public Consultations

Government of Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Natural Resources

Report of Public Consultations

NORTHERN AGRIFOODS STRATEGY

for

LABRADOR

William Shallow & Associates

November 2002

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Appendix B: Report of Public Consultations

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Consultation Process

In March 2001, the Provincial Government published "Securing Our Future Together: The Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth." The document noted that, "the agrifoods industry is a major source of economic activity in many rural communities" and that "the agrifoods industry offers significant opportunity to strengthen and diversify the rural economy." The document goes on to state Government's commitment to engage stakeholders in the development of a Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy for Labrador to address, "both the high cost of importing food products to this area of the province and the potential to create new jobs in Labrador."

1.2 Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador

In response to the Government's commitment in the Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth, the Agrifoods Branch of the Department of Natural Resources undertook the development of a Provincial Agrifoods Strategy, and, more specifically, a Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador. A Multi Departmental Liaison Committee was formed, to ensure support from relevant government agencies. Membership comprised representation from:

- Provincial Department of Natural Resources,
- Provincial Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs,
- Provincial Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development ,
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency,
- National Research Council.

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The Department of Natural Resources also embarked on a process of consultation with the agrifoods industry. In August 2002, in cooperation with the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture, Consultation Sessions were held in three locations across the province. One such session took place in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The main purpose of the sessions was to:

- identify needs and opportunities in the industry,
- determine actions to address and realize opportunities,
- propose plans for putting those actions into effect,
- establish quantitative goals to measure the success of proposed actions.

1.3 Consultation Process Throughout Labrador

Following these province-wide consultations, the Department of Natural Resources decided to e. 'er into a more extensive and public consultation process throughout Labrador, inviting participation from the industry and from interested members of the public. Three such sessions were planned: for Labrador City on 16 October 2002, Happy Valley-Goose Bay for 17 October 2002 and L'Anse au Clair on 28 October 2002. Funding for the Northern Agrifoods Development Strategy for Labrador project is being provided by the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agrifoods Innovation Program.

1.4 Federal-Provincial Agriculture and Agrifoods Agreement

The development of an Agrifoods Strategy is particularly timely. The Federal Government and the Provincial and Territorial Governments have adopted an Agricultural Policy Framework, intended to, "...develop an architecture for agricultural policy to contribute to

the sector's growth and profitability in the 21st century." A new Federal-Provincial Agreement is anticipated to come into effect in April 2003.

1.5 Appointment of Facilitator

On 3 October 2002, a Request for Facilitator Services, to facilitate consultation sessions in Labrador City and Happy Valley-Goose Bay was issued by the Farm Business & Evaluation Division of the Department of Natural Resources. The firm of William Shallow & Associates, Mount Pearl, was awarded the contract to provide the facilitation services and Ray Hawco was appointed the facilitator for the Labrador City and Happy Valley-Goose Bay sessions. The Department would facilitate the L'Anse au Clair session using its internal resources, but the results would be incorporated into a unified Labrador Report.

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2 CONSULTATION PROCESS

Public Consultation Meetings were held across Labrador: in Labrador City, Happy Valley-Goose Bay and L'Anse au Clair, during October 2002. The meetings were well-publicized using local media and were held as 2 – 3 hour evening sessions. At each meeting the participants were asked to consider three main issues:

- opportunities for a viable agrifoods industry in Labrador,
- challenges/obstacles that will have to be faced to make the agrifoods industry viable,
- solutions to these challenges/obstacles.

It was originally intended to explore these issues in small groups and then report to the whole meeting, in order to give all participants adequate opportunity to express their views. However, because of the numbers attending and the preferences of the participants, all three meetings were conducted on a single group basis

2.1 Labrador City

In Labrador City the Public Meeting took place at the Two Seasons Inn, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., on 16 October 2002. Ten members of the local Agrifoods Industry and the General Public were in attendance, as well as 8 Resource People from various Government Departments (See Appendix A). The Meeting was facilitated by Ray Hawco, who welcomed all participants, outlined the purpose of the meeting and encouraged discussion and input on the three main issues of:

- opportunities,
- challenges/obstacles,
- solutions.

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It was noted that there are more than 100 Community Garden lots, run by volunteers, in the Labrador City area. The lots vary in size from 20 X 20 to 20 X 40. Each lot pays $15.00 per year to the Town of Labrador City. The Community Gardens are close to the Town water supply, so chemicals cannot be used.

Opportunities For A Viable Agrifoods Industry

A wide range of Opportunities was discussed:

- residents would rather buy from a local source, creating a good local market;
- a greenhouse or nursery industry is needed in the area: it would not have to be on a large scale, but could produce a variety of agrifoods and decorative products;
- harvesting of blueberries and other wild berries, especially for a wine industry;
- strawberry production;
- herbs for medicinal purposes;
- there is a high local demand, and a void in the market, for landscaping services;
- more opportunities exist for trade with Quebec than with the island portion of the province;
- the number of lactose intolerant children in Labrador indicates a market for commercial goat milk production;
- participants were interested in opportunities that are feasible and realistic

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Challenges/Obstacles That Will Have To Be Faced

Opportunities abound but challenges and obstacles must be faced and solutions found:

- land availability: mining companies control most of the land;
- Government Regulations often impede progress;
- products have to be selected carefully to adapt to Labrador West climate;
- quack grass grows rapidly;
- tillers required;
- lack of egg, chicken and dairy quotas for Labrador and concern about the policies and practices of marketing boards for these products;
- difficulty of transporting products to market;
- most food commodities presently come from Quebec;
- lack of adequate access to agricultural expertise.

Solutions To Challenges And Obstacles

Participants were very positive and proposed many solutions or directions for solutions to problems:

- the importance of access to an agricultural representative from the Department, preferably a representative stationed in Labrador West;
- the establishment of a test or demonstration farm in Labrador West;
- human resource training for farmers in Labrador west;
- a DFRA Workshop in Labrador West, to educate the public about the importance of agrifood production;
- more research and development re agrifood production in Labrador West;

- due to poor nutrient soil in certain areas, conduct soil sampling to determine suitable areas for production for a broad spectrum of plants;
- prepare a map of good soil sites in Labrador West;
- use Iceland as a positive example: research best practices in Iceland and other northern environments;
- organize one Agricultural Association for Labrador;
- keep lines of communication open between the Department and the Agrifoods Industry in Labrador.

After a very productive exchange of ideas, the facilitator summarized the discussions, thanked all present for their participation and assured them that their input would be considered for incorporation into the Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

2.2 Happy Valley-Goose Bay

The Public Meeting took place at the Labrador Inn, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., on 17 October 2002. Sixteen members of the local Agrifoods Industry and the General Public were in attendance, as well as 10 Resource People from various Government Departments (See Appendix B). The Meeting was facilitated by Ray Hawco. Ray welcomed all participants, outlined the purpose of the meeting and encouraged discussion and input on the three main issues of:

- opportunities,
- challenges/obstacles,
- solutions.

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Mr. Martin Howlett, Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Natural Resources, was introduced. Mr. Howlett noted that there are some 13 farms in operation in the Lake Melville area, eight of them commercial operations, with 662 acres of land under cultivation. He stated that the major priorities for the Department in Labrador are the Northern Agrifoods Strategy and further development of the Mud Lake area. He emphasized the importance of the three-way partnership that exists between the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs, and the stakeholders within the Agrifoods Industry.

Mr. Howlett emphasized the importance of the new Federal – Provincial Agriculture Agreement that is due to come into effect in April 2003. The new Agreement will build on five key elements:

- Business Risk Management,
- Food Safety and Quality,
- Environmental Stewardship,
- Science and Innovation,
- Renewal.

The Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador will be designed to fit into the framework of this new Agreement.

John Hickey, the Mayor of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, was also introduced. Mr. Hickey pointed out that he himself is a farmer. He suggested that it would be more productive for the meeting to proceed as a single group, rather than break out into small groups and report back to the whole meeting. There was general agreement with this suggestion, so the meeting proceeded as a single group.

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Opportunities For A Viable Agrifoods Industry

There was a general sense there is no lack of opportunity for successful agriculture in Labrador:

- the Labrador climate is much more adaptable to farming than is often realized: similar to Manitoba and Saskatchewan;
- a study conducted by the Central Labrador Economic Development Board found that Labrador produces only 2% of its food, 2% comes from the Island, and 96% comes from Quebec and Ontario: much more can be produced locally;
- this area could be a supplier of fresh vegetables and other foods to the North Coast, and to Nunavut and Iqualuit;
- Agriculture Nova Scotia was impressed with the potential for farming is this area, because of the clean environment;
- there is no need to use pesticides in this area, because there are very few pest disease occurrences;
- there is much potential for harvesting and processing of wild berries;
- the availability of relatively cheap electricity make greenhouse, dairy farming, secondary processing and many other farm enterprises possible and feasible;
- the cold dry climate is very suitable for fox farming;
- cattle, horses and other livestock are also possible enterprises;
- the potential for caribou has not been realized, as has been demonstrated in other northern countries;
- only some 700 acres of land are currently under cultivation: 75,000 acres could be made available for development;

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- agritourism is increasing elsewhere in Atlantic Canada: it could grow here when the Trans Labrador Highway is completed and paved.

Challenges/Obstacles That Will Have To Be Faced

The Opportunities were balanced by a range of Challenges and Obstacles that will have to be faced:

- one of the main obstacles to successful farming in Labrador is seen as the mindset of Government: Government regulations are often counter productive to farming;
- leased land policy needs to be changed: e.g., we pay $3,000 to survey and peg our leased land; forestry receives $7.000 for stumpage; once the leased land is reverted back to the Crown it must be surveyed and pegged again;
- we have to wait seven years before building a house on a farm, which makes for very inefficient farming;
- banks are unwilling to lend to farms because they are on leased land: we need to be able to purchase land;
- telephone service outside town limits is very expensive, as much as $17,000 per phone;
- veterinarian service is needed on a more regular basis;
- non availability of on-site northern agricultural expertise to be able to assess the complications of the changing climate conditions;
- freight costs for produce and equipment impede farm development in Labrador;
- the land base available for farming is far from adequate;

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- vegetables that are shipped in from the Island could be contaminated, creating problems in Labrador;
- we lack storage facilities for year-round availability of local products;
- we need grain and feed storage and a waste storage facility;
- there is a desperate need for eggs, milk and broiler quotas for Labrador;
- the misconception of the people of the province, and the people in Labrador, is that farming is not possible in Labrador.

Solutions to Challenges and Obstacles

Despite the formidable obstacles identified, proposed solutions were also forthcoming:

- public education to convince the general public that farming is viable in Labrador;
- change Government regulations that impede farming in Labrador: e.g., the requirement to lease rather than purchase land which complicates bank loans, and the 7-year restriction on building a house on leased land,
- policies and procedures to ensure comprehensive and effective information flow between the Department of Natural Resources and the local agricultural community;
- establishment of a Labrador Agricultural Board, legislated and funded, to represent all of Labrador;
- appointment of an Assistant Deputy Minister for Agriculture in Labrador;
- resident agricultural expertise to research and support the Labrador industry;
- establishment of a cool climate research station in Labrador,

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- research best practices in other countries with similar climate conditions;
- interact more closely with the Nova Scotia Agricultural College to study the special circumstances that apply to agriculture in Labrador, and in any similar climate;
- Government support to assist in the formation of farming Co-ops;
- Government should pass a Homesteaders Act, to cover the full range of issues affecting farming, especially in Labrador;
- provision of a special, long-term agricultural fund for Labrador, to ensure financial support to the industry;
- clear more land to be made available to farmers;
- provide land for community pastures;
- Government support to provide storage facilities for feed and waste products;
- provide egg, milk and broiler quotas for Labrador;
- appoint a farmer to the Steering Committee for the Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador.

Participants were not hesitant in voicing their concerns and proposing solutions. There was a concern raised about the scope of the consultation process, in that it did not include the North Coast of Labrador, but it was pointed out that efforts are being made for further consultation with that area. Participants clearly saw a significant leadership role for Government in changing attitude; changing regulations that impede progress; and providing financial, infrastructure and expertise support. There was a strong sense, however, that providing input, as has been done in this session, has been done before. Is Government listening this time and will anything change as a result?

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The facilitator summarized the discussions and thanked all present for their participation. He assured them that Government, specifically the Department of Natural Resources is listening, as evidenced by the number of Government representatives present and participating in the meeting. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Written Submissions

Two written briefs were submitted at the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Meeting.

Herb Brown, Goose Bay, Labrador

Mr. Brown points out that the slogan: "We're doing it right in Newfoundland & Labrador," is certainly not accurate for agriculture in Labrador. In fact, he suggests that, "We're doing it all wrong," might be more accurate. Mr. Brown states that he has been farming in Labrador for more than 20 years. In his opinion, the lack of winter vegetable storage facilities is a crucial factor facing the industry and the need for an egg quota is also significant.

He gives a number of reasons for being interested in farming in Labrador:

- he has been a small-scale farmer and has experimented successfully in farming in Labrador all of his adult life: he believes in the potential;
- he believes that there are no better or more nutritious vegetables than those grown organically in Labrador's northern climate;
- as a member of the local business community, he would like to see more "grown-at-home" industry in the area.

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Central Labrador Economic Development Board

In 1999, the Board conducted research into the potential for the expansion of the agricultural industry in Central Labrador. The research showed that 2% of food consumed in Labrador is actually produced in Labrador, 2% is imported from Newfoundland, and 96% comes from outside the Province. The research also showed that local stores are willing to purchase locally produced food and that local consumers are used to paying high prices for imported food, but would rather pay for better quality locally produced food. Their conclusion is that there is a ready, willing market for locally produced meat and produce.

The Board identifies a number of specific Opportunities for the agricultural industry in Central Labrador:

- Storage Facility, which may soon be built with federal and provincial funding, will allow for the storage and over-wintering of crops;
- Livestock present a wide range of development opportunities: chicken, turkey, beef, pork and dairy products could supplement imported products to meet consumer and commercial demands;
- Greenhouse production of vegetables, especially in the winter months, could compete with poor quality, costly imports;
- Fur Farming, while not food related, has considerable potential for both year-round and seasonal employment;
- Trade with Nunavut: food produced in Labrador could reasonably be transported to Nunavut if air and sea links were established.

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The Board also points out a number of issues or barriers to the expansion of agriculture in Central Labrador:

- more suitable land has to be made available for agricultural expansion;
- Government should take a lead in clearing land for agricultural use;
- Stumpage fees are excessive and should discontinued;
- The consumer egg market in Labrador requires a quota of 15,000-18,000 laying hens.

2.3 L'Anse au Clair

In L'Anse au Clair the Public Meeting took place at the Northern Lights Inn, on 28 October, from 7:15 to 9:00 p.m. Four representatives of the stakeholder community were in attendance, as well as seven representatives of Government Departments. Because of weather conditions, five representatives from the Department of Natural Resources were not able to reach L'Anse au Clair. They participated via teleconference from the Corner Brook office (See Appendix C).

The meeting was co-facilitated by Shelley Clemens, Agricultural Representative with Natural Resources, and Ron Bowles, Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs. Doug Cudmore, speaking from Corner Brook, welcomed all participants, outlined the purpose of the meeting and encouraged discussion and input on the three main issues of:

- opportunities,
- challenges/obstacles,
- solutions.

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Opportunities For a Viable Agrifoods Industry

Participants felt strongly about the potential of many natural products that are under utilized at present. Such products include:

- wild berries: partridgeberries, cranberries, bakeapples, crowberries, marshberries, juniperberries;
- Labrador Tea;
- Old Man's Beard, for nutriceutical purposes;
- all of the above lends themselves to secondary processing, into jams, jellies, cocktails, wines, pectin, etc.;
- marshberry research is currently being conducted by the National Research Council;
- herbs and spices;
- worm farming to supply the local trout and ice fishing and gardeners markets;
- the expansion of the highway system is opening up access to bakeapple and partridgeberry areas and better access to markets for the products;
- basic vegetables, like potatoes, carrots, beets, greens, turnip and cabbage, grow well in the area.

Challenges/Obstacles That Will Have To Be Faced

Some of the obstacles that have to be faced were recognized as formidable:

- research and development is needed into:
- antioxidant value of berries,
- burn-overs to extend the value of the land,

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- fertilizer application for bakeapples,
- uses for berry oil,
- on-farm research trials,
- extension of the barrens for more bakeapple production,
- product diversification,
- high end products and markets;
- marketing directly to retailers and/or establishment of a farmer's market are expensive undertakings for farmers, without some form of assistance;
- lack of labour: problems getting enough berry pickers, may have to resort to mechanical harvesters;
- difficulty marketing local products to wholesalers;
- wild grass is taking over the berry plants: need for knowledge of how to deal with this problem;
- lack of road access to berry fields;
- destruction by ATV's on marshes and bogs; barrens are being destroyed;
- ditching and drainage is serious problems;
- berries are often harvested before they are ripe;
- lack of confidentiality in accepting departmental financial assistance;
- lack of knowledge of regulations affecting marketing to the US.

Solutions To Challenges And Obstacles

There was a genuine attempt to propose solutions to identified obstacles:

- financial assistance for research and development, especially on-farm trials;

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- more research and development on the potential of wild berries;
- more research and development on the potential of high-end products;
- establishment of a farming Co-op;
- provision of storage facilities for root crops;
- setting of established dates for harvesting different berries;
- departmental expertise to conduct workshops in all areas of farm management, including proposal writing, purchasing, marketing, etc.;
- advice and guidance for individual farmers;
- financial assistance to attend relevant conferences and access to other learning opportunities;
- pursue product diversification: including feasibility studies related to production and marketing;
- study of best practices in other jurisdictions that have similarities to Labrador circumstances;
- review of legislation and regulations that affect agriculture in Labrador;
- development of a list or data base of full-time and part-time farmers, contact information, activities of each farm, sources of financial and other information available, etc. for the whole of Labrador;
- formation of a Labrador Agricultural Association.

Participants were thanked for their enthusiastic involvement and valuable input. They were assured that their suggestions would be given full consideration. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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2.4 Common Threads

The three Public Consultation Meetings: in Labrador City, Happy Valley-Goose Bay and L'Anse au Clair, were quite different, in that there was different group make-up and priorities tended to vary according to location. However, there were commonalities permeating all three meetings respecting opportunities, obstacles and solutions related to the Agrifoods Industry in Labrador. The following are some of these common threads:

- A specific focus on Labrador, and the special circumstances that affect a viable agrifoods industry in the region:
- the establishment of a Labrador Agricultural Association,
- the need for Government to establish a legislative and regulatory climate that will be more supportive to the agrifoods industry in Labrador,
- establishment of a Labrador Agricultural Board with special funding to support agriculture in the region.
- Labrador has the potential to produce far more agricultural products than is generally recognized:
- the climate is similar to many other jurisdictions where agriculture is very successful,
- there is a need for public education to promote awareness of Labrador's agricultural potential,
- more than 90% of food consumed in Labrador is imported from outside the province.
- An effective, two-way flow of information between the Department and the Agrifoods Industry in Labrador must be improved and maintained.
- Better access to agricultural expertise is essential for progress:

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- a need for resident agrifoods specialist (s) in Labrador,
- human resource development for farmers is needed on a local basis.
- There is a need for storage facilities in strategic locations, for root crops and other purposes.
- A wide variety of wild berries grow well in Labrador, and have much greater economic potential than is currently being realized. Research and development is needed.
- The availability of suitable land for cultivation is a serious limitation to progress.
- Best practices in other jurisdictions, with similarities to Labrador, should be studied with a view to technology transfer.
- Quotas for eggs, milk and broilers, for Labrador are of particular concern.
- The expansion of the Labrador highway system will provide new and expanded opportunities.
- Consultation has taken place before. Hopefully Government is really listening this time!

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APPENDIX A: List of Participants
Consultation Session in Labrador City
16 October 2002

Randy Collins	MHA for Labrador West
Mac Bradbury	Horticulturlist
Ben Carroll	Community Gardner
Bern Donnelly	
Michael Genge`	College of the North Atlantic
Ngaire Genge	Author
Peter Genge	
Ivan Gilbert	
Steph Granter	
Chris Saunders	
Ian Bell	Department of Natural Resources
Shelley Clemens	Department of Natural Resources
Doug Cudmore	Department of Natural Resources
Paul Dunphy	Department of Natural Resources
Sheila Earle	Department of Natural Resources
Mark MacPherson	Department of Natural Resources
Ron Bowles	Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs, Steering Committee Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador
Janice Barnes-Gallant	Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development
Ray Hawco	Facilitator, William Shallow & Associates

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APPENDIX B: List of Participants Consultation Session in Happy Valley-Goose Bay 17 October 2002

Ivy Angiers	Spruce Meadow Farms
Tom Angiers	President, Lake Melville Agricultural Association
Leander Baikie	Central Labrador Economic Development Board
Janice Baker	The "Labradorian" Newspaper
Randy Battcock	Uncle Sam's Butcher Shop
Herb Brown	Business Owner
John Hickey	Producer, Mayor of Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Paul Piggott	CBC
Jim Purdy	Organic Crop producer
Frank Pye	Grand River Farms, Secretary, Lake Melville Agricultural Association
Claude Queval	Mennonite Central Committee
Muriel Queval	Mennonite Central Committee
Darla Seaward	Daybreak Farms
Lem Seaward	Daybreak Farms
Jim Shouse	Fur Producer
Dave Tipping	Chairman, Consumers Co-op

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Martin Howlett	Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Natural Resources
Ian Bell	Department of Natural Resources
Shelley Clemens	Department of Natural Resources
Doug Cudmore	Department of Natural Resources
Paul Dunphy	Department of Natural Resources
Sheila Earle	Department of Natural Resources
Sonia Glover	Department of Natural Resources
Mark MacPherson	Department of Natural Resources
Ron Bowles	Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs, Steering Committee for Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador
Pat Loder	National Research Council, Steering Committee for Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador
Ray Hawco	Facilitator, William Shallow & Associates

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APPENDIX C: List of Participants Consultation Session in L'Anse au Clair 28 October 2002

Mark Clarke	Borderside Farm
Stelman Flynn	Forteau Food Processors
Peggy Hancock	Project Manager, Southern Labrador Development Association
Dwight Howell	President, Southern Labrador Development Association
Ron Bowles	Co-facilitator, Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs, Steering Committee Northern Agrifoods Strategy for Labrador
Shelley Clemens	Co-facilitator, Department of Natural Resources

Via Teleconference:

Ed Butt	Department of Natural Resources
Doug Cudmore	Department of Natural Resources
Sheila Earle	Department of Natural Resources
Otto Goulding	Department of Natural Resources
Cindy MacDonald	Department of Natural Resources

APPENDIX C

STEERING COMMITTEE

WORKING GROUP

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTOR

APPENDIX C: Committees

Steering Committee

Department of Natural Resources

Shelley Clemens	Agricultural Representative
Doug Cudmore	Farm Business Management Specialist
Sheila Earle	Farm Business Management Specialist
Cindy MacDonald	Director, Farm Business and Evaluation

Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs

Ron Bowles	Director, Resource Planning and Development

Department of Innovation Trade and Rural Development

Cleon Moores	Planning and Development Specialist

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

Katherine Baikie-Pottle	Development Officer

National Research Council

Patricia Loder	Industrial Technology Advisor

Lake Melville Agricultural Association

Tom Angiers	President

Appendix C: Committees

Central Labrador Economic Development Board

Carol Best	Executive Director

Working Group

Department of Natural Resources

Ian Bell	Land Management Specialist
Ed Butt	Small Fruit Crop Specialist
Shelley Clemens	Agricultural Representative
Doug Cudmore	Farm Business Management Specialist
Paul Dunphy	Livestock Specialist
Sheila Earle	Farm Business Management Specialist
Cindy MacDonald	Director, Farm Business and Evaluation
Mark MacPherson	Market Development Officer
Rosalind Pound	Supervisor, Agricultural Services
Randy Ricketts	Supervisor, Soils and Mapping

Historical Development Contributor

Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs

Michelle Watkins	Senior Analyst

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